



MONTEREY NEWS

AUGUST 1994



THE TOWN

The Board of Selectmen has planned a public hearing to be held in the town offices on Monday, August 24, at 7:30 p.m. The subject of the informational meeting will be Monterey's 1994-95 contribution to the Southern Berkshire Regional School District (SBRSD).

Prior to the Annual Town Meeting, the Selectmen learned of a formula set by the state Department of Education whereby towns may calculate a deduction from their contribution to regional school districts. The deduction is based on excess debt service, a figure which

represents the amount by which any town exceeded a state average in its contribution to a school building program (such as the new regional facility at Mount Everett School in Sheffield). Using the formula, the Selectmen and Finance Committee calculated that Monterey is entitled to an excess debt service reduction of its contribution to the SBRSD in the amount of about \$185,000. Selectman Stefan Grotz reported that the Board tried by fax and phone to verify this figure several times with the Commissioner of the Department of Education before the Annual Town Meeting, but the effort was unsuccessful.

An appropriation of \$440, 621 for Monterey's contribution toward operating costs for the SBRSD was on the warrant of the Annual Town Meeting. This was the amount requested by the school district. During the Annual Town Meeting voters appropriated that sum *minus* the \$185,000 which the Selectmen and Finance Committee had calculated could be deducted. However, because the Selectmen remained wary of the figure without verification from the state, they suggested that voters appropriate \$185,000 to the Reserve Fund, in case the Department of Education revised the amount of the deduction for any reason.



MAGGIE LEONARD

On July 5 they received a letter from the Department of Education informing them that deductions based on excess debt service were limited by other provisions of state law, and that Monterey could reduce its contribution by no more \$63,561.

As of this writing, there are three different figures that purportedly represent Monterey's minimum contribution to the school budget operating costs: the SBRSD calculates that Monterey's share is \$440,621; the Department of Education says Monterey owes \$393,270; and the town appropriation is \$255,458. The public hearing is an informational meeting intended to help townspeople unravel these complexities.

Final authority lies with the state; if the state rules that Monterey has not met its legal financial obligation to the regional school district, the Department of Revenue can withhold approval of the town's tax rate until it is revised to make up the shortfall.

On June 30 the Monterey Selectmen hosted a regional Selectmen's Meeting at the Town Offices. Most of the meeting was spent discussing the SBRSD assessments addressed above. The group also discussed E-911 systems, comparing the Great Barrington dispatch system and the County dispatch system. Other sub-

jects were the DARE program, and possible recommendations to the School Committee regarding the composition of the School Committee.

The Selectmen met with Planning Board members Joyce Scheffey, Wayne Burkhart, Kim Hines and Maggie Leonard to discuss possible revisions to the zoning bylaws. In Article 17 on the warrant of the Annual Town Meeting, the Selectmen proposed to replace all references to "Board of Selectmen" in the town's zoning bylaws with "Inspector of Buildings," which they say will bring our bylaw into compliance with the Massachusetts General Laws. But when Article 17 came up at the Annual Town Meeting, Town Counsel Hugh Cowhig rose to remind the Selectmen that any revision of or amendment to our zoning bylaw first requires that the Planning Board hold a public hearing with appropriate legal notice to review the proposal, and that approval requires a two-thirds vote of the town. Article 17 was then promptly passed over.

The Monterey Zoning Bylaws as currently written (and approved by Monterey voters and the Massachusetts Attorney General) state that "The Board of Selectmen shall grant building permits..." (Section VIII B., page 26). The practice under the current Board of Se-

lectmen for the past year has been that the Building Inspector (Carleton Anderson) processes applications for building permits. At the meeting with the Planning Board, Maggie Leonard voiced her discomfort with this exclusion of the Selectmen from the building permit process, given the language of the bylaw. The Selectmen noted that permit applications are still reviewed by the Board of Health (the Board of Health and the Board of Selectmen in Monterey have identical membership, but different governmental functions), and the Building Inspector has the Board's input before a permit is issued. The Selectmen also noted that the system has worked well over the past year; there have been no egregious building permit violations. Kim Hines said the permit applications often have inadequate documentation; the Selectmen noted that that issue was recently addressed in a letter to the Building Inspector.

The Selectmen and Planning Board also reviewed the possibility of adding a Noncriminal Disposition for Bylaw Enforcement to the Monterey Zoning Bylaws. Our bylaws are presently enforced through a criminal complaint procedure in district court. The proposed bylaw would provide a procedure and system of fines for enforcing the bylaws that is "non-criminal," like a speeding ticket. Town Clerk Barbara Swann noted that the state strongly encourages this method for dealing with bylaw violations.

On July 16 a meeting was held at the town offices between the Selectmen and the Second Home Owners' Association. There were inquiries regarding any large capital expenditures facing the town in the near future; the lack of handicapped access to the Library was mentioned; some voiced concern about pedestrians on Tyringham Road near the center of Monterey, a situation which one second home owner described as "an accident waiting to happen." Selectman Stefan Grotz characterized the meeting as friendly, and said the Association sensitized the Selectmen to some of the issues important to second home owners.

— Maggie Leonard

To commemorate the publication of
"Gould Farm: A Life of Sharing"
we invite you to meet the author,
William J. McKee,
and to join us for tea



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THE GALLERY IN MONTEREY

The Gallery in Monterey is now exhibiting a group of works by members and their guests. The show is titled "Artists' Choice," opening with a reception on Saturday, July 30, 3-5 p.m., right before the Monterey Fire Company steak roast. "Artists' Choice" features works by members William Brayton, Jane Burke and Susan Hardcastle, Frank D'Amato, Jean Germain, Chet Kalm, Valerie Petersen, Lew Scheffey, Julie Shapiro, and new members David Rainey and David Gloman. Their invited guests are Cynthia Atwood, Patricia Lambert, Scott Reeds, Edith Ross, Katy Schneider, Leonard Weber, and Erica Wurtz. You will see a mix of styles and genre in works by artists new to the community, as well as familiar favorites. The exhibit runs through Sunday, August 14.

The final exhibit of the season is entitled "Black, White, and Gray," and will also feature member artists and their invited guests. It will be interesting to see how each responds to the color theme. This exhibit runs from August 20 through September 4, with an opening reception on Saturday, August 20, 5-7 p.m.

The Gallery hours are Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sundays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

— Nicky Hearon



Fireworks over Lake Buel on Saturday, July 2

LGA TO MEET

The last meeting of the season for the Lake Garfield Association will be held in the firehouse at 10 a.m. on Saturday, August 27.

Everyone interested in the welfare of the lake should attend and hear of the progress on the leachate monitoring project.

— Muriel Lazzarini

AN EVENING WITH DAVID MCALLESTER

On Friday evening, August 19, the Monterey Historical Society will present a program entitled "Indians of Berkshire County: Their History, Culture, and Arts," to be given by the noted Indian authority David P. McAllester. Mr. McAllester is Professor Emeritus of Anthropology and Music at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. He is a specialist in the music of Native Americans, including the Indians of the Northeast, and is familiar with their languages as well. The sounds of an ancient language set to music will fill the Church as David illustrates his talk with musical examples.

Mr. McAllester's writings include *Peyote Music* (Viking Fund, New York City), *Navajo Blessingway Singer* (University of Arizona Press), and *Enemy Way Music* (Peabody Museum, Harvard). Many of

his historical articles on Mahican Indians have appeared through the years in the *Monterey News*, as well as his tales and fables which draw from Native American life.

The program will be held in the Monterey United Church of Christ, beginning at 7:30. Admission is free, contributions are welcome. For additional information, phone 528-3698.

— Cynthia Weber

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CHURCH NEWS

The search for an interim and permanent minister for the Monterey United Church of Christ is proceeding. We have been meeting new candidates for these positions, some of whom have led us on Sundays in June and July.

We have also been keeping the Church together in this transition period through a lay ministry, and have experienced some very beautiful Sundays through this sharing with lay congregants.

At this time we extend our welcome to others in the community to join us in worship, and to share the priceless experience of spiritual brother- and sisterhood, the children of our Divine parent. We gather each Sunday at ten o'clock for about an hour, and would love to have you there.

In the evening on Saturday, September 10, at 7:30 p.m., we will host a program of prose and poetry readings by Berkshire writers to benefit the Berkshire Effort for Library Literacy. We hope to see you there.

Although we are without a pastor at this time, we are going ahead with the annual stewardship drive traditionally held in the summertime when our friends from all over the country are here in Monterey.

If you are interested in supporting us, you may mail your donation to the Monterey United Church of Christ, Monterey, MA 01245.

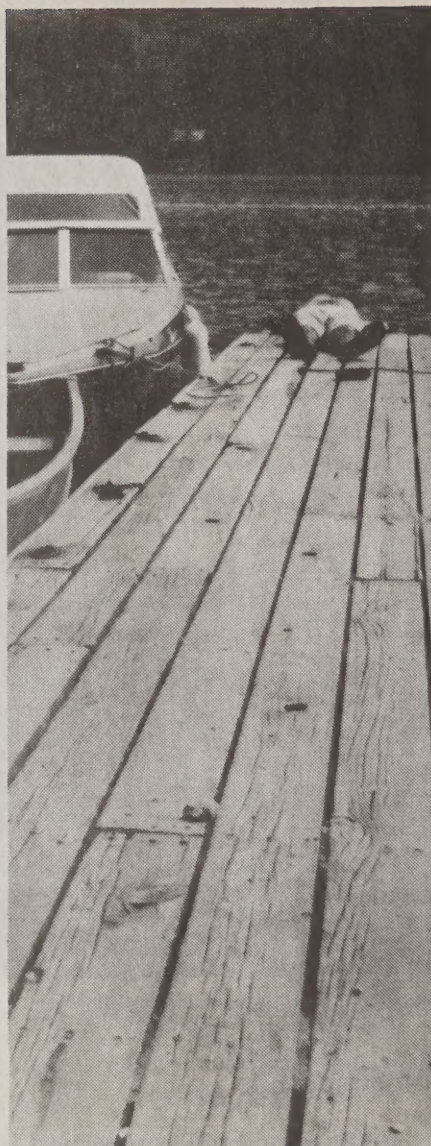
We will be fanning out through the community, visiting as many of our old friends as we can get to, and ask that you plan to meet with us when we call, and give as generously as you are moved.

— Marty Greenhut

I will put my law in their minds and write it in their hearts: and I will be their God and they shall be my people.

No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they all shall know me.

— Jeremiah 31:32



MAGGIE LEONARD

STAR TRIPS TO DEPART FROM GREENE PARK, CHURCH BASEMENT

We'll all have a chance to learn more about the universe this August at four astronomy programs in Monterey. The sessions are non-technical, free of charge (thanks to funding provided by the Monterey Cultural Council), and everyone is welcome. The four evenings constitute an introduction to the joys of seeing the night sky. The dates and times are as follows:

Sunday, August 14, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, August 24, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, August 28, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, August 31, 8 p.m.

The session on August 24 will be held in conjunction with that evening's Community Dinner, which starts at 6:30 p.m. Our instructor and guide will be Ron Woodland, who is a professional astronomer and teacher from Worthington. We'll meet each time, regardless of the weather (clear or cloudy), in the church basement. After a brief introduction and talk about what to look for that night, we'll head over to Greene Park if the skies are clear. In cloudy weather, we'll stay at the church for an indoor session with slides, charts, and blackboard. Ron has been building telescopes and teaching astronomy for more than thirty years. He has conducted many programs for Mass Audubon, and is currently Planetarium Director at Amherst College. He hopes that people of all ages and levels of experience will attend.

Bring your kids and their grandmother, any binoculars or telescopes you may own, a flashlight (dimmed with red plastic), and your star chart. Don't forget the bug dope. Each session will be independent of the others, so you needn't stay home because you missed the previous one. What to expect? On August 14 there will be a first quarter moon and the likelihood of some lingering activity from the annual Perseid meteor shower; after sunset on August 24, Jupiter, Venus, and Mercury will be in the western sky, and Saturn in the east.

Let's hope that clear skies will afford us the thrill of seeing across distances measured by numbers in the trillions to objects bright and marvellous, opening us to the mystery and beauty of space.

For information (no weather forecasts) call me at 528-9385.

— Joe Baker

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MONTEREY COMPOSTER WINS CET SWEEPSTAKES

Hal Glatzer of Swann Road in Monterey won the sweepstakes for composters sponsored by the Center for Ecological Technology in Pittsfield. His prize consists of a composting bin, a tool for aerating the compost pile, and a visit from CET composting specialist Sherrill Baldwin to help get things under way.

Hal and his wife Kathy Frankovic are "not serious vegetable gardeners" (time doesn't allow), but they have established flower beds and would like to improve the soil around their home. Hal has composted and gardened before, living in Hawaii and Seattle, and he had a rooftop garden in San Francisco at one time, but this will be his first experience with maintaining the pile in a freezing climate. He's glad to have the bin, so the kitchen waste won't attract raccoons or other wild animals, especially considering the prevalence of rabies currently.

Hal says it was Kathy who picked up the sweepstakes entry at the General Store, knowing he would be interested. Now he's out to convince her it can be done—weekend schedule, cold weather and all, no problem.

RESULTS OF KNOX TRAIL RUN

Pat Weaver of Lenox was the top finisher in the thirteenth annual Monterey Road Race on July 16. Fifty runners completed the challenging four-and-a-half mile Knox Trail Run. Weaver's winning time of 25 minutes, 16 seconds was just over a minute faster than that of Paul Shepardson of Pittsfield, who finished second in 26:18. Mike Morrissey holds the course record, set in 1993, of 23:44.

The top female finisher in this year's race was ten-year-old Laura Shannon of Great Barrington, who ran the course in 30:16, looking fresh at the end with a sprinting finish. Shannon won two titles

at a national meet just a week earlier, both the 800 and the 1500 meter races, and broke the national record for her age group in the 1500 last month. She was unfamiliar with the Monterey course, but she "seemed to dance along at a comfortable pace," according to race director Bob Gauthier. Pam Roberts of Lenox was the second female finisher at 30:32, and Robin Hathaway of Dalton was third with 31:53. The course record for women of 26:24 was set in 1987 by Angela Hearn.



The kids in the Fun Run crossed the finish line in the following order, first to last: Ben Kurtz, Sudi Baker, Eric Roper, Samantha Weisman, Kylee Sorel, Brandon Elliot, Christie Hathaway, Dayna Hammond, Peter Kurtz, and Brandon Quail. Guiniveve and Tristan Goik arrived just a bit late for the start, but ran a great second half of the course.

Kudos for Bob Gauthier, who not only gets it all together, but still has the energy to run. He in turn thanks his able assistants Dean and Fran Amidon, Barbara Gauthier, Barbara DeVoti, Stephanie Grotz, Jon Gauthier, and Tom Morrison for all their time and spirit.

— Stephanie Grotz

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OZ COMES TO TOWN

Children can follow the yellow brick road and find Oz at the Monterey Library when the Berkshire Public Theater comes to town on Wednesday, August 10.

Area children are invited to come and join the fun of "Once Upon a Time," a children's literary dramatic workshop designed to teach kids about both literature and theater. The workshops are geared for pre-school and elementary aged children, and generally last about an hour and a half. The Public's Educational Director, Nora Maher, and other artists from the theater present a story idea. Then the children are assigned parts, made up, and costumed. They are directed through several rehearsals, with most children playing multiple parts. The kids are encouraged to develop their own ideas for the play, working with others to create the finished production. Parents are invited to return to the library for the

final fifteen minutes of the program to see the performance.

The story for Monterey Library workshop will be "The Wizard of Oz," a classic which allows young actors lots of creativity.

This presentation is supported in part by funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and administered locally by the Monterey Cultural Council. The workshop is free, and begins at 3 p.m. Children who wish to attend should register at the library.



COMMUNITY DINNER

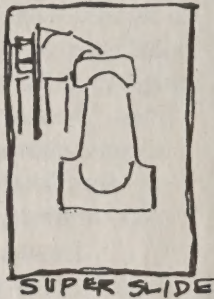
Last month's Community Dinner was a resounding success. Extra tables were needed to seat everyone for dinner, and it was standing room only to watch the video by Jason Brown and Nicky Hearon entitled *The Berkshires: Voices of the Land*.

On Wednesday, August 24, Ron Woodland will present the second in his series of four free astronomy classes for all ages. Don't worry if you miss the first class, as all the evenings are self-contained units. See Joe Baker's article on page four of this issue for more about the astronomy program.

Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the basement of Monterey United Church of Christ. Bring a dish to share and your own place settings. Around 7:30 p.m. the class will begin with an indoor presentation followed by star and planet viewing in Greene Park, if the weather cooperates.

We hope to see everyone there for this fun and informative dinner and program. Please let me know if you have any questions about the dinner or the program. All are welcome!

— Lisa Simpson



CHILDREN'S HEALTH

Good cooperation on the part of schools and parents has brought an enthusiastic turnout for parent-child playgroups in Housatonic and Sheffield. Thanks to all! Several family activities are planned for August:

Every Tuesday, parent-child playgroup at the Housatonic School playground, 10 a.m.-12 noon. Bring a snack. Cancelled for rain.

Every Wednesday, parking fee waived at York Lake, Sandisfield State Forest. Picnics, swimming, and hiking.

Every Thursday, parent-child playgroup at Undermountain School playground, 10 a.m.-12 noon. Bring a snack. Cancelled for rain.

Wednesday, August 10, playgroup leader training, 10 a.m.-12 noon at CHP. 528-9311 for information.

Tuesday, August 16, parent-infant social hour, 1-3 p.m. in Grove Street Park, Great Barrington. In case of rain, at CHP, 54 Castle Street, Great Barrington.

Wednesdays, August 17, blueberry picking in Mount Washington, 10 a.m.-12 noon. 528-9311 for information.

Many families join summer reading programs at local libraries. Check to see if your library has a special program. Local newspapers list low-cost summer events and fairs that families enjoy. Most children just like to be outside in the

summer with a shovel and pail, or painting, or playing in the water.

Want to blow your own bubbles? Use one cup of water, a half cup of dishwashing liquid, a quarter cup of glycerin, a quarter cup of corn syrup. Experiment with toilet paper rolls, straws, and rings of different sizes to make blowers. Be sure children are old enough to know not to drink the liquid, and that they blow out, to avoid getting the stuff in their mouths. Beaters and various containers can add to the bubble fun. (From *Growing Together*, Cornell Cooperative Extension Bulletin of May, 1994.)

Children's Health Program includes pediatric medical services for children from birth through age eighteen, including well-child exams, and care and treatment of illness. For more information, call Pat at 528-9311.

Tips for the overwhelmed parent, from the *Resource Mother's Handbook*, published by the National Commission to Prevent Infant Mortality: take the baby for a walk—the change of scenery will be good for both of you; ask a family member or friend to watch the baby while you go out for a while or take a nap; ask him or her to help by picking up groceries or preparing a meal; attend a parenting, breastfeeding, or other support group to meet and talk with other mothers; call a child abuse hotline if you need to, or 911, or the operator, or Parents Anonymous at 1-800-882-1250.

— Claudette Callahan

THE GALLERY IN MONTEREY

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Artist's Choice
JULY 30 - AUGUST 14
OPENING RECEPTION JULY 30 3-5

Black, White, and Gray
AUGUST 20 - SEPTEMBER 4
OPENING RECEPTION AUGUST 20 5-7

SAT 10-5 SUN 10-1

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NEWS OF THE NEWS

The first issue of the *Monterey News* hit the stands—well, the table at the General Store and your mailboxes—more than twenty-four years ago, on March 24, 1970. It was eight mimeographed pages stapled together, the work of many people under the sponsorship of the United Church of Christ. The first editor was Marie A. Seifert. We quote from a brief statement of purpose published in that first issue:

A number of persons in the Monterey Church felt that the town suffered because we didn't have a way to communicate with each other. This media is an attempt to fill that gap...

Several principles are to guide its publication. It is to serve the whole community. It is to be available for all organizations, and to encourage a creative spirit in the community.

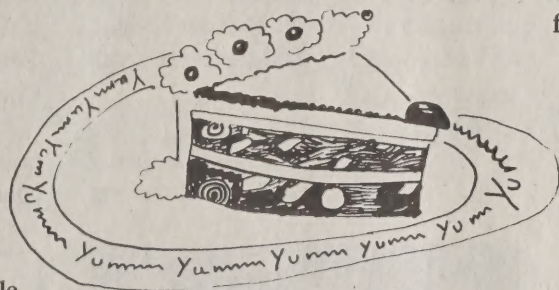
It is the nature of infant ventures to stumble. We hope to learn by our mistakes, and we gladly welcome ideas, suggestions, yes, and criticisms. We need assistance if we are to grow. So as we venture into the communication gap, we look for your views, that we may serve you better.

Not only have we have survived infancy, we have lived through remarkable growth, publishing some 287 consecutive monthly issues, counting a few breaks when no issue appeared (can you imagine?) for reasons that may by now be lost to history, and the two occasions on which a combined July/August issue was published, as recorded by former editor and *News* archivist David McAllister. The paper is free, with contributions gratefully accepted and generously given. Ad space is available at a modest rate. Today we mail the *News* to approximately 1100 readers, and provide an additional 100 or so copies that anyone can pick up at the General Store around the beginning of the month.

At birth the *Monterey News* was a pure volunteer, seat-of-the-pants effort, and now we are a duly incorporated non-profit organization with a board of direc-

tors that actually meets to set policy and consider the future; we own a computer on which the paper is typeset in-house, and we offer typesetting services to our advertisers; a few people with specific responsibilities receive modest compensation, but the spirit of voluntarism remains a vital part of this paper.

Out of that spirit, Ian Jenkins recently came onto the Board of the *Monterey News* and brought with him, in addition to literary interest and commu-



nity spirit, a certain accounting expertise, great good energy, and many spreadsheets. He has given the artistic and literary types that traditionally pack our Board some friendly, cogent schooling in cash and accrual accounting that we might not otherwise have provided ourselves in a million years. Fortunately, his analysis of the finances of the *News* over the past five years shows us breaking even, more or less. You might think that should be obvious, even to nature lovers allergic to numbers, but there is a difference between cash in the checking account at the beginning of the annual fund drive (approximately \$3,400), and yearly reconciliation of expenses and income, amortization of assets, etc., not to mention increases in production and mailing costs that are impossible to predict but likely to occur. We might once have said, Look at all that cash—what'll we do next? Ian says we have five-year average expenses of \$9,717 per year, and average revenues of \$10,128 per year—not nearly enough for real-world financial security.

And sure enough, our third class mailing costs are going up this September by about 25%, so the Board has decided on an initial step to help cover this increase. As of September, our advertising rates will increase to \$2.75 for the smallest ad size, and \$7—14 for the

larger ad sizes. We can still offer advertisers truly inexpensive space in the paper in the form of our smallest ad size. (Remember, it isn't how big it is; it's how good it looks.) We hope those affected by these changes will continue to advertise in the *News*, adding their own character to the look of the paper as well as providing needed revenue.

There's another step we may take soon, which is to offer readers first class mailing at a certain level of contribution. This will get the *News* to most of you a lot faster, perhaps especially important to Berkshire county readers with non-Monterey addresses, given the calendar of Monterey events and special ads that appear in the paper, and the slow movement of third class mail.

We are optimists, proud of our roots and undaunted by this knowledge that we are breaking even while postal rates are going up. There will be new ways to improve the paper, speak to our readers, and build a nest egg, ways we will find. We welcome your ideas and comments, and hope for your continued support.



Socially

RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

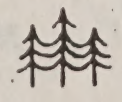
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PARKS COMMISSION NEWS

The Monterey Parks Commission considered several sites for the new playground equipment, and concluded that the present location in Greene Park (where the slide, swings, jungle gym, etc. are) is best. It is central, visible, and more accessible than any of the other possibilities. At this writing we are drawing up specifications for the bidding process, and we are hopeful that our new playground will be in place this fall.

Hot temperatures this summer have meant a busy time for the town beach and lifeguards Kate Magram, Josh Aerie, and Doug Brown. Several assists have been necessary for swimmers in need, and quick action by vigilant lifeguards has spared us more serious incidents.

The slowly dying olive bushes at the beach have now been removed through the efforts of Tree Warden Roger Tryon and his helpers. The new evergreen hedge is a pleasing replacement.

— Mick Burns

STEFAN GROTZ ATTORNEY AT LAW

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FAX: (413) 528-5165

MONTEREY GRANGE

Monterey Grange No. 291 met on July 20 for a variety program. The monthly birthday cake was baked by Alice Shaffer, and plans were made for the annual food sale to be held on the lawn of the Monterey Library on August 20. The Fair Committee is working on the exhibit to be put up at the Blandford Fair. Several members attended the seventieth anniversary at East Chatham Grange. The next meeting will be held on August 17. It will be Youth Night, and there will be a fund raiser for youth projects.

— Fraternally
Mary Wallace, Lecturer



VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR COMMISSION, COMMITTEE

Town residents are needed to serve on the Conservation Commission and the Town Report Committee. Conservation Commissioners are appointed for three years, and there are currently three vacancies. Appointees to the Town Report Committee serve for one year.

Residents willing to serve on the Conservation Commission should contact Conrad Ohman (Acting Chair of the Commission) at 528-1785, or write to the Commission, Monterey, MA 01245.

Any resident who would like to serve on the Town Report Committee should contact the Selectmen at 528-1443.

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Prose and Poetry Party

An Evening of Readings by Berkshire Writers
to benefit the Berkshire Effort for Library Literacy

Saturday, September 10

7:30 p.m.

Monterey United Church of Christ

Donations Accepted

Information: Dianna Downing (243-0471) or MaryKate Jordan (528-5557)

NOTICE

The Monterey Board of Selectmen will conduct a public hearing to discuss the Town's school assessment by the Southern Berkshire Regional School District on Wednesday, August 24, 1994, at 7:30 p.m. in the town offices, Main Road, Monterey. The Board welcomes input from all Monterey residents and taxpayers.

Peter S. Brown, Chair
Stefan Grotz
Georgianna C. O'Connell
Monterey Board of Selectmen



MAGGIE LEONARD

MONTEREY · BUILT 1987

THE BIDWELL HOUSE

On Saturday, August 20, The Bidwell House will host an exciting and informative program on the history of eighteenth century Delft ceramics. The afternoon consists of a slide lecture by noted ceramics expert David J. LeBeau of Sheffield. Mr. LeBeau is an accredited appraiser with the American Society of Appraisers, and an Assistant Professor of Art at New York University. The lecture will be held in the General Knox Museum adjacent to the Monterey Library, and will begin at 1 p.m. Following the lecture we will go to The Bidwell House for a special tour which will focus on the important Delft collection formed by Jack Hargis and David Brush, the museum's benefactors. Reservations are required, since we are limiting the house tour to the first twelve people who register. The cost is \$3 for museum members, and \$5 for non-members.

The museum is open for tours Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. through October 10. Please remember that the grounds are open at any time for garden viewing or hiking the trails.

For more information about the August program, or to make a reservation, please call me at 528-6888 during business hours.

— Lisa Simpson

THE COUNCIL ON AGING

Seniors are advised that a limited number of free tickets will be available to concerts at the Consolati Performing Art Center in Sheffield. Make reservations through the Monterey Council on aging by calling me at 528-3698 a few days prior to the performance.

— Cynthia Weber

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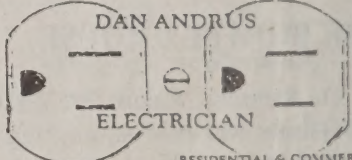
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THE NINETEENTH CENTURY TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT

To the Selectmen of the town of Monterey

We the undersigned Ladies of Monterey feel that the public house kept by Albert Tryon,¹ as at present conducted is a serious evil.

We understand that intoxicating liquors are freely sold there to many men whose families at home are suffering for want of the money spent at Mr. Tryon's bar.

Some of us have been painfully shocked while passing the house for the sight and sounds of drunkenness. Some of our children have been sorely frightened by meeting reeling swearing toppers, as they were returning from school. Therefore, we would respectfully petition the Board of Selectmen to interfere in the matter, and in some wise efficient way put a stop to the nuisance.

Our hearts are burdened, we are more anxious and fearful than we can express. Must our town become a by word and a reproach?

Must our streets be made unsafe for our children to pass? Must the abomination that is making desolate so many homes be allowed to remain in our midst unchecked?

In view of these inquiries we pray you present this our petition before the meeting on Saturday, June 13, 1868

This petition is in the archives of The Bidwell House, and shows the strong feeling evoked during the first half of the nineteenth century on the subject of strong (liquor). The Temperance Movement was a force in both rural and urban life, particularly prior to the Civil War.

In the seventeenth century, alcohol played an important role in the life of the European settlers, and this continued into the eighteen-hundreds. In Europe, where the water was tainted, everyone who could afford it had beer, hard cider, and wine



Signing the Pledge

for daily drink. The Mayflower was stocked with "hot waters." Every good Puritan housewife knew the method for making beer to supply her family with a thirst quenching drink believed to fortify a person for hard daily labor. Apple orchards were soon planted by settlers, not to supply eating apples, but hard cider. Once children were weaned, they too drank beer and cider. No one objected to drink—it was part of life. Ministers and town leaders did object to public drunkenness, and those caught were put in stocks, jailed, or fined.

What, then, led people to join societies and pledge total abstinence, after two centuries of socially acceptable drinking? A variety of causes contributed to this change. Toward the close of the eighteenth century, the use of strong increased. Average consumption rose from two and a half gallons per person in 1792 to seven and a half gallons per person in 1823. Various religious groups addressed what we now call alcoholism, with the rapidly growing Methodist religion leading the way. In addition, this was a period of general reform. There was firm belief that man and society could be perfected, and a number of humanitarian causes were born, including the abolition

movement, prison reform, women's rights, diet reform, and temperance. All were intertwined, with the same people involved in many movements. The major underlying cause was the rapid and frightening social change that accompanied the Industrial Revolution. The final, immediately persuasive cause of change in attitudes toward drink was peer pressure. When wealthy town leaders publicly signed their names and joined a society, many others followed.

The earliest societies were formed to promote temperance, the moderate drinking of alcohol; beer and wine were favored over hard liquor. Later temperance societies promoted total abstinence. These organizations asked people to sign a *teetotal*² pledge, whereby absolutely no strong was consumed. Some pushed for state legislation, while others favored individual discipline. There were sharp divisions within some societies.

We will continue this history of the Temperance Movement in next month's *News* with a look at the record book of the Tyringham Washington Total Abstinence Society, dated 1843–1850, also from The Bidwell House archives.

— Lisa Simpson

1. Albert Tryon (1821-1886) was the grandfather of Wallace Tryon and the great grandfather of cousins Richard and Raymond Tryon. Albert's establishment was the Tryon Hotel, which he built in 1850. It stands today; it is the first house on the left after the church, heading north on the Tyringham Road from the center of town.

2. The contemporary spelling is "teetotal." The Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary notes that duplication of the initial "t" (T-total) was done to emphasize the meaning.

JULY

*Frantic for magic, softly he
(Grey his mustache, his lank sad hair)
Cants off-key a witless prayer
Reckless and rude, a threnody
He sings to wrench his lawns from there,
Turf bound by ice that once was snow
Grimed with grit on grit below,
(Grey the murk in the dank, sad air).
Swing up, swing high, then out away
From fractured filth and filthy gray
To the pulse of the slanted winter sun.
As if nonsense would take them to a sun-struck sky
A dream of light where they might borrow
Respite from this racking sorrow—
It would ease somewhat the grey and dun
Oh ease the ice that numbs them now
(But now the fire of mid-July-
Ice sits still behind his brow)*

— Jim Michelman

TREE SWALLOWS

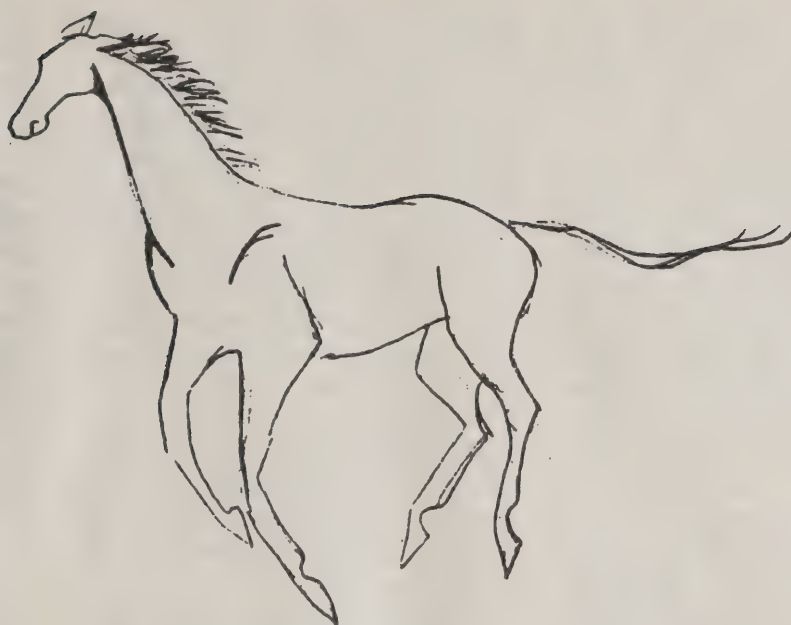
*Every meadow should be decorated with tree swallows,
Swooping and diving, soaring and dipping!
More than other birds they seem ebullient,
Exuberant, circling, gyring, then down again—
They rarely approach their nest box directly,
Without an extra, virtuosic flourish of wings,
A last circumambient, flaring, airborne lilt,
Then, like a candle snuffed, to vanish inside.*

*A split second before one goes into the nest
The other bursts out to take up the chase:
In a moment high against the clouds, and then,
Coming fast, skimming low above the grassstops.
Zigzagging, more kin to bats than to other birds,
Like the bats their every flamboyant swerve
Reflects the desperate, erratic evasions,
High and low and everywhere, of their insect prey.*

— David P. McAllester



The root-cellar and flowers
by Cora Baker



AUGUST

for Alan Holt

*I wanted to
be in the crease
forever, forever
getting large not from
love want which wants
its own.
We call it retrograde
shadow barometer today is
Hiroshima's birthday too
so she protests.
It's just me talking
to you here
my new blameless one
does no wrong
trusts me.*

*I remember my friend Era
who died forever afraid of crowds.
You and I differ, see it.*

*I wanted to write a wise poem for you
beyond these years,
a distance
intimate leaving
about the ferocious green
in our season, this late added month
named for one man at the end
of the era of the many.*

— Connell McGrath

THE WISE MISTRESS

*For all the sublimating into gold
is youth the baser metal
to the old?*

*the putrefaction of our pain
is always to
another's gain*

*with embers of our own desires
we light another's
altar fires*

*the ashes in that garden laid
where younger lovers
will have strayed*

*I'd take the tinctures of my very soul
to make one broken
vision whole*

*could I but give a lovelier rose
to the dark master
of my last repose.*

— A. O. Howell

MUSHROOM GROWING

*I remember
clear glass milk bottles
filled with
rotted manure and
mushroom mycelium
known as spawn.
The bottle tops
were secured
with cotton plugs
singed sufficiently
to prevent contamination.
The contents were planted
in mushroom beds
in darkened greenhouses
and picked by women wearing
miners' lighted caps.
In France in the old, old days
there was so much
mysticism, mythology
surrounding the mushroom
that women were asked
not to pick them
during their monthly cycle.*

— Nancy Adams

NATURE TEACHER FACES BODY-SNATCHERS

Hi, my name is Bonner, I'm a nature teacher. That's just one of the things that I am, but it is the one that this story is about, so picture me with my little knapsack on, and a bunch of kids strung out behind me on some steamy trail somewhere. We walk along about ten steps and I spot something great, like Indian pipes pushing up through the leaves. I think fast: if we stop to examine these wonderful plants, I can lay on the kids my trip about not kicking over Indian pipes or mushrooms or anything for that matter. I can tell them about saprophytes and chlorophyll. I can say, "Remember about the sugar maples making food from sunshine, CO₂ and water? They can do that because they are green. These plants are not green."

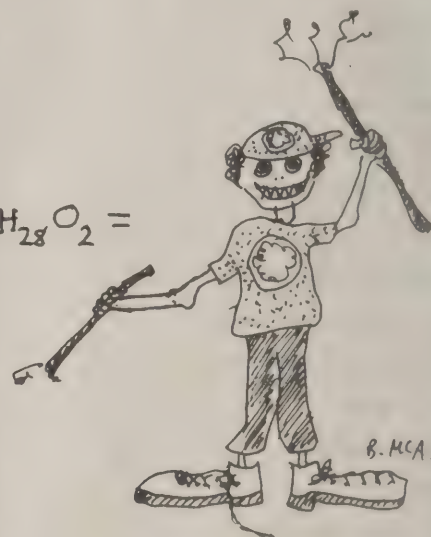
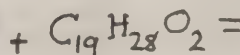
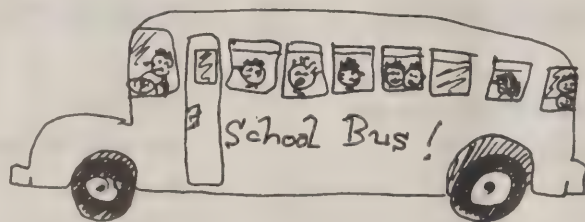
If we stop to look at the Indian pipes we might never make it to the waterfall. We might have to *not* stop to listen for the catbird on the way back. I sneak a look at my watch and decide there is time for Indian pipes, then I take a look at the kids. After a week of classroom nature-teaching, I think I know them. My family has asked me, "How's the class this year?" and I have said, "Great! They ask good questions, pay attention, act respectful of my microscope and sundry show-and-tell items. We stand in a circle outside, in silence, and then make up a poem about the deep, dark porcupine woods. Real nice kids."

Out on the trail I look back, just before we hit the Indian pipes, and I can hardly believe these are the same kids. They *look* the same, to my highly developed powers of observation (I am a scientist), but they do not act the same. I observe: these kids have undergone a major transformation since the last time I saw them. I hypothesize: the body snatchers have invaded and taken away my little poets and naturalists, leaving

instead a bunch of hooligans. I test my hypothesis: "Kids," I say, "let's stop here and take a look at this marvelous plant." They do not stop, do not reply. They do not make up poetry. Instead they jeer at each other, push each other down, wave sticks in the air, stumble their too-large feet on wet rocks in the path and fall sprawling, with loud laughter. Look at me, they seem to say, I am a fantastic and loud-mouthed super-dude.

I test my hypothesis further by addressing one or two by what I have assumed to be their names. No reply. My theory is correct and somewhere between the schoolroom and the trailhead twelve innocent children disappeared and got replaced by monsters.

As a scientist I feel I must determine how this happened and where. One clue



I have is that they all entered a yellow school bus. I have heard that school buses work some kind of magic on children, causing a kind of behavior not normally found. I met the bus at the trailhead and by this time the transformation had already occurred. I am tempted to conclude that the poets and naturalists are still tucked away somewhere in the school bus, kidnapped by space aliens, and that hooligans have been inserted into the external shells of my students.

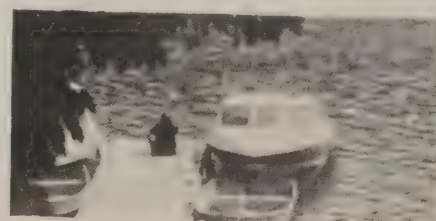
Suddenly I notice a significant detail. I raise my gaze once more from the hand lens with which I am examining the Indian pipes and I see that my students on the trail can be divided into two groups. The larger group, ten in number, is shouting and sprawling and waving sticks about. The smaller group, containing two individuals, is standing attentively before me gazing with interest at the Indian pipes. We see a behavioral difference between the two groups—is there another difference? Yes! Parents and teachers will have guessed by now that

the smaller group is female and the larger one is male. I have discovered, by dint of scientific inquiry, another critical factor in the equation, namely *testosterone*.

Now I realize that I am not up against body-snatching space aliens after all. The problem is much more powerful and pervasive, and it is thanks to my understanding of sugar maples and chlorophyll that I am able once again to use scientific analogy to identify my enemy. It is chemistry. Put together sunlight, water, carbon dioxide and chlorophyll, and you get plant food production, which is the foundation of every food web or chain or pyramid in the great ecology textbook of life. It is powerful, this chemistry. I

swallow hard and put away my hand lens and field guides. I know now what happens when you put together a school bus, a hot day, the open trail and testosterone: you get hooligans. Is this reaction reversible? Can the chemistry be undone? I'm going to work it out on the sugar maples and the Indian pipes, with the sunlight and water and such. Then I'll know if I dare go near the school bus and testosterone again.

— Bonner J. McAllester



MAGGIE LEONARD

WILDLIFE SURVEY

Mammals

There were signs of a bear near Lake Garfield about mid-July, and one was investigating the Berkshire National Fish Hatchery last month. Two deer with well-grown antlers were spotted by Bob Rausch and his work crew near Rawson Brook at Gould Farm. Dale Duryea saw a doe and twin fawns playing in a meadow near Rick Mielke's house. Coyotes were concertizing in Art Hastedt's field on July 16, "hootin', yappin', and howlin,'" in Art's apt description. They've been very active vocally at dawn and dusk around Lowland Farm, and one was hunting mice right behind the machinery while Roger Tryon mowed the Scheffey meadow, and came back again for more in the afternoon, according to Barbara Tryon. The Bowles/Swann household has heard them, too.

A bobcat sighting was reported in Beartown Forest, and Wayne Dunlop discovered the carcass of a bobcat behind a shed near his house at Rawson Brook Farm. The cat was not long dead, and Dale Duryea speculated that it may have been hit by a car, as it seemed to

have a broken back. Those who saw it remarked on what a beautiful creature it was. Art Hastedt found three little snowshoe rabbits in a nest that came to light at his place, and Dale reports that he has seen them in Beartown. Dale further states that we're having a peak in the cottontail population, with corresponding activity of coyotes and foxes. Dr. Salerno at Burke's Canal saw two foxes, both afflicted with mange and one nearly dead. He also saw an otter trying to get a fish away from a heron (the heron won), and sees otters herding fish down the canal for a roundup at the east end. Porcupines are busy browsing on twigs in the tops of the poplars, and eating blackberry and raspberry canes.

Ed Berday and a friend saw a monkey (maybe) sitting in a tree near Hupi Circle. It was too large for a squirrel, and too small and slim for a raccoon or porcupine. When it moved, it lowered itself from branch to branch. It was a brief glimpse at dusk, however, and remains hypothetical.

Dale's one raccoon call this month was for a sick one that proved to have rabies. Keep up all precautions to protect yourself and your pets from this fatal disease.

Birds

Barbara Tryon saw a red headed woodpecker in mid-July near Tyringham Road. This is rare for these parts. There are a couple of bluebird nests and seven fledglings at Lowland Farm. Would anyone else with bluebirds let her know? She passes this information on to the Audubon Society. There have been several sightings of wild turkeys, usually mothers with young, including some crossing Route 23, and others nearly every morning along the New Marlborough Road.

The wild geese are moulting now; don't be alarmed if you see them unable to fly up for a while. Their goslings are getting big, and so are the ducklings. Great blue herons have been wending their picturesque way over the town. One revealed itself to the flotilla on Lake Garfield July 9; another was seen from Gould Farm silhouetted against the moon at dusk. On July 7 David McAllester heard a concert at dawn at the east end of the lake: young beavers inside their lodge ("oooo, oooo, oooo"), plus song sparrows, pileated woodpeckers, dogs on Hunger Mountain, small and large frogs, catbirds, a kingfisher, yellow

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throats, crows, a warbling vireo, and human beings (a distant lone truck).

Loul McIntosh at Gould Farm tells of three more sightings of herons early in the morning, "plenty of bluebirds," (courtesy of Dan Lacey and Dick Reseska), a chestnut sided warbler chatting while the laundry was being hung out, a flock of yellow bellied sapsuckers. The tree swallows have graduated from the McAllester's nest box, and those at Eleanor Kimberley's have been succeeded by chickadees.

Insects

Two of the spectacular luna moths visited Gould Farm in mid-July. Loul noted "one on the back door of Main House, where its wing lines and antennae perfectly matched the colonial red of the door. The second one sat on my back door until I turned off the light late at night." She also reported a great many fireflies with three different kinds of signals: long pulses with three-second intervals; two short pulses with slightly longer pauses after each pair; three quick pulses followed by a long one. "Since then, all kinds of variations have made their appearance, generally confining themselves to the one light pulse, or two light pulses in various intervals. It could have warmed the heart (in spite of the cold light) of a musician.

"I am a side show participant in my daughter Margrit's research on solitary nesting bees and wasps. I learned to recognize dozens of nests of these creatures in the Gould Farm gravel pits while Margrit collected numerous specimens, including the parasitizing predators. She had lent me fifteen elderberry twigs from California, which I staked out. Each one has a resident bee or wasp laying eggs and providing her brood with pollen cakes or aphids. All stalks were occupied in a few days. Some now have been closed with leaf material (leaf collecting bees). Two of those nests became parasitized by predators—in one the pollen was thrown out together with the sawdust from the excavation. While observing my solitary bees and wasps and their predators I noticed many fewer honey bees than usual."

Plants

In June the clumps, and sometimes banks, of white umbels two or three feet high along the roads were bishop's weed, or gout weed. In July the similar plant with a flatter umbel is Queen Anne's lace. The latter has sparser foliage, and is scattered everywhere instead of growing in clumps and masses. The current

white umbel on high shrubs is elderberry. Other plants blooming: meadow rue, forget-me-not, black alder, Canada lily, wood lily, cattail, grey-stemmed dogwood, hop hornbeam, pipsissiwa, pigeon berry, pyrola, meadow pink, bladderwort, yellow, white, and red clover, sweet clover, purple loosestrife, fringed loosestrife, fleabane, black-eyed Susans, milkweed, poke milkweed, meadowsweet, blue curls, Joe—Pye weed, yarrow, golden Alexander, potentilla, goldenrod, nightshade, mullein, burdock, ragweed, oxalis, wild thyme, mint, Indian pipe, daisy, bee balm, swamp azalea, hellebore, helleborine, tartarian honeysuckle, St. Johnswort, water smartweed, day lily, cow lily, and white waterlily. Summer is here!

Barbara Tryon calls attention to the large, perfect American elm in the corner of the Lowland Farm barnyard. Since Dutch elm disease there are very few of these anywhere. Loul McIntosh writes, "I have been impressed with the density of foliage this year (as compared to five or so years back when the pear thrip devastated much foliage), and with the unusually high number of blossoms everywhere, especially on trees and bushes."

— David P. McAllester



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THE OBSERVER - JUNE

This month we mark the first birthday of this column, and have our first opportunity to compare this year's June weather statistics from Monterey with the numbers from last year. Remember last summer? There was apocalyptic flooding along the Mississippi River in the national news every day. Here it felt hot and dry. This past June had an average temperature 2° hotter than June of 1993 in Monterey, and the high temperature of 94° recorded this year on June 14 is a full 6° above last year's high of 88°. Rainfall this June was half an inch greater than the total precipitation last year in June, yet still about three-quarters of an inch short of the monthly norm recorded in Pittsfield.

The hot weather sent lots of people into the lakes to cool off, and gardens went wild. A certain yucca plant bloomed for the first time in memory. After a cold winter and a long, late spring, the steamy weather of early summer felt like a visit from, or to, another climate.

High temp. (6/14)	94°
Low temp. (6/2)	42°
Avg. high temp.	81°
Avg. low temp.	58°
Avg. temp.	67°
Monthly norm. (Pitts.)	63.5°
Precip. occ.	10 days
Total precip.	3.35" rain
Monthly norm. (Pitts.)	4.13"
High bar. press. (6/20)	30.28"
Low bar. press. (6/7)	29.70"
High humidity (6/15)	97%
Low humidity (6/2)	59%
Avg. wind speed	10 mph
High wind gust (6/1)	38 mph



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GOULD FARM HISTORY REVIEWED

Gould Farm: A Life of Sharing

By William J. McKee

William J. Gould Associates, Inc.
Great Barrington, 1994
306 pages, illustrations, \$9.50

One day in 1883 a sixteen year old boy was looking out over Schroon Lake from his family's farm in the Adirondacks when he felt a "flood of understanding" that Christ remedies all needs and suffering and provides by his teaching a joy and power accessible to everyone. Such a vision might not be considered remarkable in a youth whose family was deeply religious; what was remarkable is that the vision sustained William J. Gould through a series of efforts to create a beloved community where disadvantaged people could find that joy and power to change their lives. The last of these efforts was in Monterey at what was to become Gould Farm.

Will and his wife Agnes Goodyear Gould found a charming but dilapidated farm on Rawson Brook. Together with a group of devoted relatives they started "Social Service Farm," intended to be "an adjunct to social welfare agencies and hospitals, helping poor people in

need." They provided a family setting where tired out social workers, depressed, or mentally ill men and women, and others who needed to reshape their lives could find refuge. Even retirees and vacationers who wanted to work and help at the Farm were welcome.

The atmosphere was non-sectarian, cheerful, supportive, and democratic to the extent that respect for the individual outweighed such considerations as rules and regulations and definitions of illness. The emphasis was "social, not medical." Many of the guests or residents testified later that what helped them most was the discovery that even the simple tasks they were able to do at first were useful and appreciated. Everyone was sustained by Will's ebullient good spirits and boundless energy, as they were by Agnes' serenity and calm practicality.

Word spread through social agency and pastoral counseling circles of the unique community developing in Monterey. Outside financial help became available, and by the time Will died in 1925 (like Aldo Leopold, fighting a forest fire), the original buildings had been rehabilitated and new ones added to make a total of twenty-two. The fluctuating population of guests and staff sometimes went as high as 200 people, and the property had grown to over a thousand acres. Agnes Gould carried on Will's

ideals for thirty-three years after his death, ably assisted by associates, residents, guests, and outside friends. A board of directors was formed after Agnes' death in 1958. Generous bequests enabled the Farm to expand its opportunities for guests to engage in useful work as they became able to re-enter the larger society. The Roadside Store became a part of Gould Farm in 1977, and the Boston Program, with halfway houses and apartments in Lincoln, Newton, and Waltham, was developed over the period 1977-1988. In this extension of Gould Farm there are a dozen additional staff members and some forty residents.

The first full account of the Gould family and of the Farm was written in 1963 by Rose L. McKee, who was the Farm's social worker for many years, one of the original associates, and a member of the board of directors. Much of this eighty-five page study, titled *Brother Will and the Founding of Gould Farm*, was incorporated into the present volume of 306 pages. In addition, William J. McKee, Rose's son, discusses the religious and philosophical climate from which the idea of the Farm sprang. He also examines the "combination of balances"—economic, administrative, and social—which created the dynamic of Gould Farm as it changed and developed. An eight-page appendix lists and describes the key people in the history of the Farm, and fourteen pages of bibliographical notes provide titles with commentaries on books that influenced Will and Agnes Gould and their successors.

Of great interest in the present volume is the study of the dynamic balances mentioned above. How does a small, family oriented, close community retain the benefits of those qualities when it becomes large, complex, and famous? With the advent of psychotropic medications, it became possible to include severely handicapped people among the guests, but there was an increased need for psychiatric expertise. A family can operate as a committee of the whole, but a large institution needs centralized authority. Will Gould hated to ask anyone for money, but as Gould Farm expanded, it could not rely on selfless volunteers or chance benefactions. William McKee's

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clear exposition of how the Farm has steered its course between these oppositions and into the present makes a fascinating chapter of social history.

The younger author followed the practice of his mother in the earlier work, allowing staff members, guests, and friends to speak for themselves. Two interesting narratives within the history are the written account of Bill Gilchrist, the Farm carpenter from 1934 until 1946, and the oral testimony of Joe Burkholder, work leader from 1974 until 1984. Bill tells how much the work program helped him and others, and gives a fervent account of the tension between the old style of "clairvoyant management," when you just did what felt right, as against being given a work quota. Joe relates the story of a sap collecting crisis, when it appeared that the buckets would overflow during the night. Staff members and guests all rushed out together in the midst of an unseasonal thunderstorm! "Those unexpected things made the work activities more than routine. Guests would agree that here was a crisis they had to resolve... That kind of experience really heightened the idea of working together on common projects with common objectives."

Though Gould Farm had a strong Christian foundation in its beginning and through much of its history, the emphasis was always on "Christian behavior" rather than teaching or proselytizing. Since World War II, the Farm has become more secular, as has the rest of our country. The informal religious services, once attended by nearly everybody, have dwindled and at times discontinued. But people from a variety of religious backgrounds continue to be attracted to the staff, and prayer and meditation groups find a ready home in this community. In his final chapters, McKee notes that a spiritual quality is still deeply rooted at the Farm. Although the guest population is now largely made up of people with various mental illnesses, a major part of the therapy derives from the intangible but potent atmosphere of love, mutual respect, shared concerns, and a feeling of community.

— David P. McAllester

CONTRIBUTORS

Our thanks for recent contributions from the following readers:

Roger B. & Carol Kane
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Vector Analysis

I spot Leo's station wagon inching toward me in the heat and traffic of Great Barrington on a Saturday. As we pull abreast, he says, "Let's take the canoe out this afternoon. Bring it over to my place later, and we'll go out on Lake Garfield."

"Too crowded! How about the river? But wait—I can't go anywhere! I have a ton of stuff to do, no time at all."

Leo is not tall; he slides down a little lower behind the wheel so that only his head shows above the door, low rider style. "What stuff?" he deadpans. Traffic moves, and I call back, "Okay! Three o'clock—be ready."

It's true: there is no time simply to drift and talk, or drift and not talk. Human life outside cities does *not* move at a slower, more humane pace. Summer proves it. If we backed off just one notch, every trace of us would vanish in a few short years under a jungle of green. Rural New England with a lazy population would grow over like a Mayan ruin—not even: all our wooden buildings would simply return shapeless to the earth. But the early stages would look bad, which New Englanders will not allow. This combination of setting and populace has built a common habit of activity that is hard to break. Occasionally, by admitting that no level of activity ever seems quite enough, I find myself in a moment ripe for drifting, which I seize.

Leo is in the bow, shirtless now under the sun with a tan that stops above his elbows and below his neck. His square back is strong, but we are barely paddling. He talks to the lake, and I talk to his back.

"I've been offered good work in California," he says.

"An impossible commute. Turn it down."

Leo looks down and back at the water to his left as he says, "I could move."

Are these the first words announcing a large event? Inwardly I tighten. "That's true, you could move," I say calmly. "What's the job?"

"I got a letter from a man who was traditionally trained in Japan as a tea house builder. He was apprenticed at the age of twelve, left home. It was all arranged by his father. I met him years ago through a mutual friend, and I thought then that he barely saw the work I showed him. He looked but didn't see. I thought it was a cultural thing, that my dedication to craft was just too slight, compared to what he knew. He seemed to be asking himself, What am I doing here? But maybe he did see something in me or my work. Or maybe he's that much longer in this country—I mean California—and the traditions of Japan have receded. Maybe he deliberately wants to mix it up for some reason. The project is a Buddhist monastery—the building, the furniture, screens—everything. Everything the best."

I think of the human vectors that place us, that answer the question, How did I get here? Or, why go somewhere? (*We can't be* nowhere, figurative speech aside.) They are like the arrows of varying breadth and length on the blackboard in high school physics, but they are not just dry lines: their variety runs to shape, color, age, style, substance, the effects of wear. These vectors act on the point of a life, and move it about; they collect over a lifetime, as in a drawer stuffed with photographs and letters. At the bottom of the pile lies the vector of birth, all but accidental, an arrow hard as glass.

"It sounds like dying and going to heaven. A job like that can't happen without moving. Here that same job would be all messed up with context—some contractor you already know, with a rap you've heard, everyone on the sidelines clucking about money, and how long it all takes. Here your unfinished projects would nag. You'd be coming

home every night. Out there you arrive clean, you go to work and do the best you've ever done. You're focused. You leave the best you are capable of, work that will touch generations. How can you say no?"

"Yeah, sure, but how can I move? I've lived here a long time. Oh, I'm not *of the town* as much as some, but what is the town? I have my place here. I know my place here—the ratty corners, the clean rooms, all of it." I'm not sure if he means his land and house and shop, or his place among people. Both, I suppose. Separability is the question.

The heat of the day has been building quite a thunderhead, to which we are oblivious until large raindrops pock the lake, then everything happens at once: wind roughs up the water, the clouds overhead are lit by the sun shining across the lake from the west, and thunder rolls around the hills. We paddle hard for shore and hunker among some scrubby trees at the east end of the lake. Lightning strikes at the blanket of trees, sometimes safely distant, a few times so close we hear it sizzle and pop. The storm passes after a while.

"It would be cleansing, like a fire—if you moved, that is."

"It's a family habit," says Leo, whose grandparents emigrated to America from eastern Europe.

We get in the canoe and paddle back toward Kinne's Grove, where the truck is parked. I have no clear sense of what Leo will do; I think he's deeply uncertain. I would miss him, although I wouldn't lose him by his moving, any more than I have him by proximity. But his news taps a restlessness in me, as if I had to make a move right now, in the urgent heat of summer.

— Peter Murkett

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July 19, 1994

To the Editor:

Call me politically correct—a phrase which never enters my own vocabulary—but I did take offense to the inclusion of “Injun Summer” by Daniel Menaker in last month’s *Monterey News*. As people who know me are aware, the only thing I am rabid about is history and The Bidwell House, and no one would ever accuse me of being obsessive about political correctness. However, several issues were raised in Mr. Menaker’s story which bother me.

Luckily, the “unrigorous plundering of the history of a victimized people,” namely the Native Americans, is “ebbing...under the influence of political correctness” in camps for children. I agree totally that the Native American culture has many values which are important to impart to young children. However, it seems to me that the stereotype of painted Indians wearing feathered headdresses standing around a campfire yelling “how” teaches only one thing—that Native Americans were warlike savages.

Would this “unpretentious melting pot,” which has campers from such diverse, though often stereotyped, backgrounds as Jewish, black, and Amerasian, still be in business if the campers debased these cultures? I think not.

Surely there is a better way to teach about Native American culture and values. How hard could it be for this camp to do a little research and correctly portray the history of Native Americans? It can’t be that hard. Berkshire County has a perfect model in the Native American Day Camp run in the summer by the Berkshire Museum and the Berkshire Audubon Sanctuary.

My last comment about this co-ed camp which is supposedly teaching wonderful values to campers is, Why are there no female Webelos, the elite older campers? I certainly would think twice about sending my own child to this camp which teaches these “ideals.”

Sincerely,
Lisa Simpson



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Indians of Berkshire County Their History, Culture, and Arts

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by

David P. McAllester

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PERSONAL NOTES

Congratulations to **Robin Pearl** and her husband **Jonathan Kargman** on the birth of their son **Tyler Rand** on June 20. Tyler was born in New York City, weighing in at eight pounds, four ounces. He joins his three-and-a-half-year-old sister **Brooke Heather** at home. Elated grandparents are **Bud and Shirley Pearl** of **Bidwell Road**.

And our congratulations to **Mark Amstead** and **Teresa Peretti** on their engagement. Mark, the son of **Don and Pat Amstead** of **Main Road**, and **Teresa**, daughter of **Albert and Charlotte Peretti** of **Seekonk Cross Road** in **Great Barrington**, plan a September wedding at **Saint Peter's Church** in **Great Barrington**.

Hats off to **Anne McIntosh** of **Tyringham Road**, who has been voted **Nurse of the Year** by her colleagues at the **Lee Visiting Nurse Association**. Anne, a team leader and staff nurse, also serves as substitute supervisor for the agency. She has been with the **Lee VNA** just over two years, and prior to that was **Director of Nursing** at **Gould Farm**.

Betsey Camp was happily escorted from **Florida** to her **Lake Garfield** home in **June** by her son **James**. Now a **Lieutenant Colonel** in the **U. S. Army**, **Jimmy** most enjoyed a few days' respite from his duties here in **Monterey**. He is presently living in **Stafford, Virginia**, working at the **Pentagon**, and is making plans for retirement next summer.

Congratulations to **Tish Thorpe**, who was the recipient of the **Leonard Weber Art Award** presented at **Mount Everett Regional High School's** graduation ceremonies. A surprised and delighted **Tish** received a framed print of **Monterey**. **Leah Bohn**, **Marta Makuc**, and **Erin and Meghan Sadlowski** all received awards from the **Sheffield Kiwanis**. **Leah Bohn** was awarded the **B. Terry Fenn Memorial Scholarship**, and a **Presidential Academic Fitness Award**. **Bruce Snow** was the recipient of the **Sheffield Historical Society Award**. Hats off to all of you!

Our best wishes to **Edith Wilson**, who has returned to her home on **New Marlborough Road** after surgery at **Berkshire Medical Center**, and is making

steady progress toward a full recovery. Three cheers for **Edith Lavinia**!

Several **Monterey** students were named to the **Honor Roll** at **Mount Everett Regional High School** for the fourth and final marking period. In grade twelve, **Leah Bohn** made Honors; in grade ten, **Jason Tanner** made Honors; and in grade nine, **William Conklin** made High Honors, and **Shaylan Burkhart**, **Jaclyn Hinchiffe**, **Joseph Kopetchny**, **Kathryn Kopetchny**, **Jeffrey Pilot**, and **Noah Wright** all made Honors. Also, in grade eight, **Stephanie Hastedt** made High Honors, and **Jeremy Vallianos** made Honors; in grade seven, **Lucy Rosenthal** and **David Shea** made High Honors, and **Cedric Mason** and **Ian Rodgers** made Honors. Way to go, all of you—keep up the great work!

A very, very happy anniversary wish to **Tim and Grace Burke** of **New Marlborough Road**, who celebrated a very special sixtieth wedding anniversary on **July 1**. Late, but heartfelt congratulations!

Happy birthday wishes (oops, a little late) to **Lena Green** on **July 21**, and this month to **Chelsey Smith** on **August 2**, to **Katie Kopetchny** on **August 5**, to **David McAllester** on **August 6**, to **Ann Burns Smith** on **August 7**, to **Patrick Sheridan** on **August 9**, to **Kate Elizabeth Olds** and **Sarah Olds** on **August 15**, to **Michelle Grotz** on **August 20**, to **Alton Heath**, our **Monterey toymaker**, on **August 22**, to **Ann McGinley** on **August 26**, and to **Rick Mielke** on **August 30**.

Also, happy anniversary wishes to **Stefan and Stephanie Grotz** on **August 23**, to **Tom Morrison** and **Pam Gauthier** on **August 28**, and to **Jeff and Hannah Pedersen Moran** on **August 29**.

Sculpture by **Monterey's Paul Perces** will be shown at the **Gedney Farm Gallery** in **New Marlborough** through **October 23**.

Thanks for your contributions! Please continue to share news items, birthdays, etc., simply by jotting them down and dropping them in the mail to me, just **Route 23**, or by giving me a call at **528-4519**.

— Stephanie Grotz

CALENDAR

Fridays, August 5, 12, 19, and 26 Folk dancing of all kinds for all ages and abilities led by Karl Finger. Contribution, adults \$6, children \$3.50. 8 p.m. in the Lenox Community Center, 85 Walker Street, Lenox. Information: 528-2963.

Sundays, August 7, 14, 21, and 28 AA meetings, 9 a.m. in the basement room of the Monterey Grange (town offices), Main Road.

Wednesday, August 10 Literary dramatic workshop for children by the Berkshire Public Theater, 3 p.m. at the Monterey Library.

Sunday, August 14 Astronomy program for all ages with Ron Woodland, 8 p.m. in the Church basement. (See article, page 4 of this issue.) Information, 528-9385.

Tuesday, August 16

Free blood pressure clinic, 9-10:30 a.m. in the basement room of the Monterey Grange (town offices), Main Road.

Monterey Democratic Town Committee meeting 7:30 p.m. at the firehouse.

Wednesday, August 17 Youth Night at the Monterey Grange No. 291.

Thursday, August 18 Meeting of the Southern Berkshire Solid Waste District, 7 p.m. in the Church basement.

Friday, August 19 Program entitled "Indians of Berkshire County: Their History, Culture, and Arts," given by David P. McAllester from 7:30 p.m. in the Monterey United Church of Christ.

Saturday, August 20

Slide lecture by David J. LeBeau on the history of eighteenth century Delft ceramics, 1 p.m. in the General Knox Museum adjacent to the Monterey Library, followed by a tour of the Delft collection at The Bidwell House.

Opening reception for exhibit entitled "Black, White, and Gray," 5-7 p.m. at The Gallery in Monterey.

Wednesday, August 24

Informational public hearing on the town's share of the regional school district operating budget, 7:30 p.m. in the town offices.

Community Dinner, from 6:30 p.m. in

the Church basement, followed at 7:30 p.m. by

Astronomy Program with Ron Woodland.

Saturday, August 27

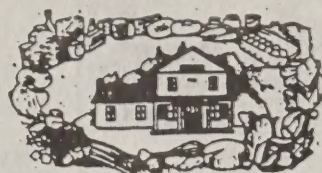
Lake Garfield Association meeting, 10 a.m. at the firehouse.

Square and contradance at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Joe Baker. All dances taught, beginners and children welcome. Refreshments served at intermission. Adults \$5, children \$2. Information: 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.

Sunday, August 28 Astronomy program with Ron Woodland, 8 p.m. in the Church basement.

Wednesday, August 31 Astronomy program with Ron Woodland, 8 p.m. in the Church basement.

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For changes of address, or information regarding subscription to the *Monterey News*, call Susan LePrevost, Circulation Manager, at 528-4595.

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Contributions from local artists this month: Cora Baker, p. 12; Sudi Baker, p. 13; Erika Crofut, pp. 5, 7; Bonner McAllester, p. 14; Pete Murkett, p. 16; Julie Shapiro, p. 6.

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